

Source 5a

Extracts from guidebooks of Worthing

Pigot's Directory of Sussex 1839

Worthing is a sea-port and market town in the parish of Broadwater.....56 miles south from London, 20 east from Chichester, and 10 west from Brighton; situated within a mile of the South Down hills.

.....The mackerel fishery in the spring, and that for herrings in autumn, are pursued from this port with spirit, and great quantities of the former fish are despatched to the London market.

Phillipps's Handbook and Directory of Worthing, 1850

In the fishing season, the beach is a frequently a very lively scene. Thousands of mackerel are brought to shore and packed up in baskets for the London market. Sometimes thirty or forty smacks, that have had a good take and are laden with fish, come in at the same time, and then the bustle is extreme. All hands instantly set to work; and carrying, counting, washing, and packing mackerel is for a while the order of the day.

French & Watkiss's Handbook and Directory of Worthing, 1857

FISHING BOATS.-The fishery of Worthing has undergone a great change, and the fishermen, who were once a money-getting and thriving class of men, have, through the altered character of the seasons and the diminished quantity of fish taken, been very materially reduced in circumstances. The fishing trade is chiefly confined to mackerel and herrings, of which large quantities are brought to shore in the seasons.